



Strawberry Guide



Grow beautiful -and tasty-berries by following these guidelines!

Preparation

Strawberries can be planted in many situations. Full sun is best, and they may be planted in containers, baskets or in the ground. Strawberries need rich, well drained soil that is acidic. In the ground, plan for rows 2' -2.5' apart, spacing each plant 14"-18".

Use our **Master Nursery Paydirt with Soil N'Rich** to amend your native soil and add **Master's Master Start** fertilizer according to directions.

Make sure your planting area has irrigation-drip and furrows work well.

Strawberries must be kept consistently moist (but not water logged) throughout the bearing season.



over 85°F. These varieties typically put out fewer runners than June-Bearing.

Ever-Bearing Varieties:

Quinault: Large, attractive berries are tasty, rather soft. Good producer of runners. Resists viruses but is susceptible to botrytis. Widely adapted.

Seascape: Good producer of large berries good for eating fresh, jam and freezing. Excellent virus resistance.

June-Bearing produce one crop in late spring/early summer, and these are typically the higher quality strawberries.

June Varieties:

Sequoia: One of the tastiest strawberries. Bears for many months. Resistant to alkalinity, yellows and most leaf diseases. Widely adapted.

Chandler: Large, juicy berries over a long period. Excellent flavor & good texture. Some resistance to leaf spot, and grows well in California. Use as an annual.



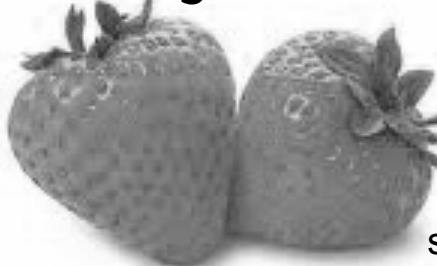
Variety Selection

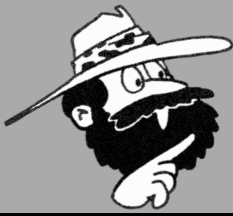
There are two types of strawberries- Everbearing and June-Bearing. Planting both types will ensure a long, prolific harvest.

Everbearing varieties flower and set fruit over a long season, with harvest peaking during early summer. It continues unevenly through fall. Exact pattern of fruit production varies by variety and temperature, as they will stop flowering

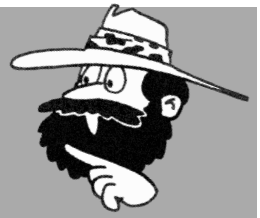
Planting

Plant strawberries so the crown is above soil level. Topmost roots should be 1/4" beneath soil. Planting too deep will cause crown rot, too shallow and plants will dry out. **Continued on back...**





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Growing Season Care

Mulch growing plants to deter weeds, conserve moisture and keep berries clean. Using row covers early in the season will also help. Sunset Wester Garden Book recommends pinching earliest blossoms in the first year to increase vigor and avoid drying out. Fertilize regularly with **Master's Fruit Tree and Vine Food** according to package directions.

Pinch off all runners to get larger plants with larger berries. Leave runners on (7"-10" apart, pinch off extras) for a heavier crop, but smaller berries.

Post-Harvest Care

June bearing varieties should be renovated after harvest by removing foliage with a lawn mower set to high so as not to injure the crowns.

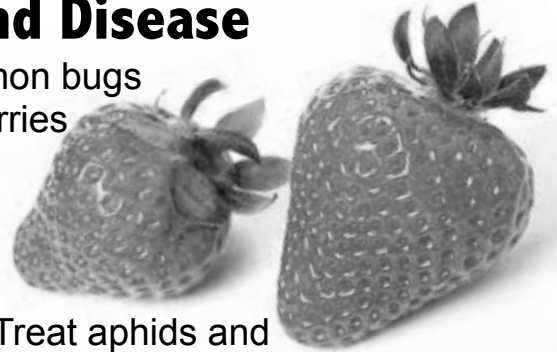
Water and fertilize all strawberries with **Master's Fruit Tree and Vine Food** to encourage new growth.



Last season's older "mother" plants can be removed if desired and reset younger "daughter" runners as replacements in fall.

Pests and Disease

Common bugs affecting berries in our area include aphids, mites, slugs and snails. Treat aphids and mites with **Neem** or **Pest Fighter** and snails and slugs with **Sluggo**. Bird netting is also a good idea.



Diseases include fruit rots like botrytis and anthracnose. Leaves, crown and root diseases can also be a problem. Remove diseased foliage and ripe or rotten fruit as soon as possible to avoid or spread problems.